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NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Distribution extension of *Strabomantis ruizi* (Lynch, 1981) (Amphibia, Anura, Strabomantidae) from the department of Valle del Cauca, Colombia

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ABSTRACT: *Strabomatis ruizi* is a large-sized frog from the Andean cloud forest of Cordillera Occidental, department of Valle del Cauca, Colombia. We present two new records for *Strabomantis ruizi* on the eastern slope of Cordillera Occidental,Valle del Cauca, Colombia.

Strabomantis ruizi (Lynch, 1981) is a large frog (snout-vent length SVL = 29.8–45.1 mm in adult males, and 59.7–70.0 mm in adult females; Lynch 1997) (Figure 1) that belongs to the *Strabomantis sulcatus* species-group (Lynch 1997). The description of this species was based on a single juvenile female from Reserva Forestal de Yotoco, Valle del Cauca, Colombia. *Strabomantis ruizi* is characterized by having a wide head, dorsal skin shagreened and bearing numerous subconical warts, a pair of folds extending from upper eyelid to posterior level of suprascapulae, and skin of upper surface of limbs tuberculate.

The main diagnostic characters of *S. ruizi* are the absence of discs on fingers, presence of small discs on toes, areolate ventral skin, conical tubercles on upper eyelid, lateral fringes on toes and presence of tarsal fold (Lynch 1981). *Strabomantis ruizi* is morphologically similar to *Strabomantis necopinus* (Lynch, 1997), yet it can be differed by the presence of a median otic plate (absent in *S. necopinus*) and the absence of discs on fingers (present in *S. necopinus*); moreover, their geographic ranges do not overlap (Lynch 1997; Castro-H and Bolívar-G 2010).

Strabomantis ruizi is restricted to the Andean Cordillera Occidental of Colombia (Castro-H and Vargas-Salinas 2008), where it has been reported from four localities in the department of Valle del Cauca, in the municipalities of Dagua, La Cumbre, Restrepo and Yotoco, all in the department of Valle del Cauca at elevations between 1500 and 2000 m above sea level (Lynch 1997).

An adult female, *Strabomantis ruizi* (CD-UV 1882; SVL = 67.8 mm) was collected at Reserva "Costa Rica", Hacienda Campo Alegre, Vereda Arauca, Corregimiento Andinápolis, municipality of Trujillo, department of Valle del Cauca, Colombia (04°10'32" N, 76°24'15" W, 1800 m) on 11 October 2009 at *ca*. 15:30 h, in a disturbed forest, next to La Capota river. A juvenile male (CD-UV 1916; SVL = 33.9 mm) was collected along the basin of Meléndez river, Vereda El Minuto, Corregimiento Villacarmelo, municipality of Santiago de Cali, department of Valle del Cauca, Colombia (03°23'33" N, 76°35'34" W, 1500 m) on 10 January 2010 at *ca*. 19:30 h, inside an advanced secondary forest. *Strabomantis ruizi* was found in sympatry with *Pristimantis* cf. *achatinus* (Boluenger, 1898), *P. brevifrons* (Lynch, 1981), *P. erythropleura* (Boulenger, 1896), *P. palmeri* (Boulenger, 1912) and *Colostethus fraterdanieli* (Silverstone, 1971) at Reserva Costa Rica; and with *P. palmeri*, *P. erythropleura*, *P. orpacobates* (Lynch, Ruíz-Carranza and Ardila-Robayo, 1994), *P. brevifrons* and *Cochranella savagei* (Ruiz-Carranza and Lynch, 1991) at the Meléndez river basin. Specimens are deposited at the Colección de Docencia de Vertebrados, Sección de Zoología, Departamento de Biología, Universidad del Valle, Cali, Colombia.

Localities reported herein correspond to the southernmost and northernmost records of *S. ruizi* in the department of Valle del Cauca, both on the eastern slope of the Cordillera Occidental, extending the species

FIGURE 1. An adult female of *Strabomantis ruizi* (CD-UV 1882) from Reserva "Costa Rica", Hacienda Campo Alegre, Vereda Arauca, Corregimiento Andinápolis, municipality of Trujillo, department of Valle del Cauca, Colombia. Photo by Ana Paola Yusti-Muñoz.

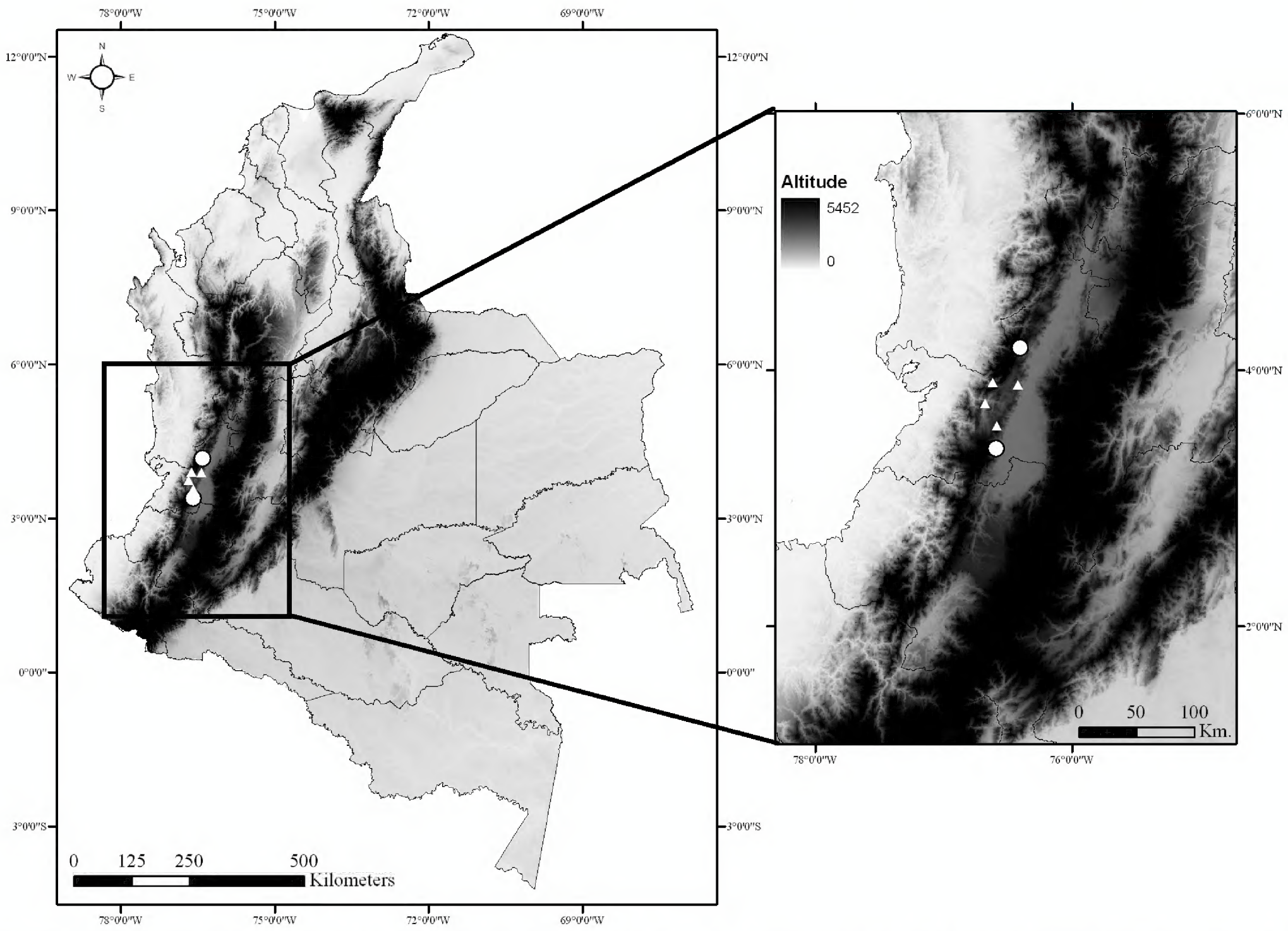

FIGURE 2. Map of western Colombia, showing locality records for *Strabomantis ruizi*. Enlarged map on the right shows detail new localities (white dots) and historical locations (white triangles) by Lynch (1997).

distribution ca. 31 km N and 21 km S (straight-line distance) from the previous localities (Lynch 1997) (Figure 2).

Strabomantis ruizi is an uncommon species in the places where it is found. It is believed that populations are decreasing, and characteristics as its relative big size in addition to small populations, make the species highly sensitive to human disturbance, mainly to the effects of agriculture and human settlements. Globally, the species is listed as Endangered; according to Castro-H. and Bolívar-G. (2010), the population of the type locality is the only one that is actually protected. The species has been reported as positive for Batrachochytrium in the same place (Castro-H *et al.* 2004; Velásquez-E *et al.* 2008). The discovery of this species in two new localities is of great importance to efforts aiming its conservation: the first locality, Reserva "Costa Rica", is part of the buffer area of the "Parque Natural Regional Páramo del Duende". The second locality, the Basin of Meléndez River, is part of the buffer area of the "Parque Nacional Natural Farallones de Cali".

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